



*The Newsletter of the High Country, Tolland Massachusetts*

# The Tolland Tattler

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Published by the Board of Selectmen

SEPTEMBER 2006

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## *From the office of Town Clerk*

State Primary will be held on Tuesday, September 12, 2006 - Polls are open 7:00 am until 8 pm.

This is a Vote by Ballot. If you are unable to come to the polls to vote during the hours the polls are open you may request an absentee ballot. Absentee ballot request forms are available at the Town Hall or on the Town website [www.tolland-ma.gov](http://www.tolland-ma.gov).

Once completed the absentee ballot requests may be returned by US mail or left in the grey drop box outside the Town Hall. Once the request is received the absentee ballot will be sent back to be filled out. Return the absentee ballot in the envelope provided to the Town Hall via US mail or by placing it in the grey drop box outside the Town Hall. Allow time for this process when making your request.

Completed absentee ballots may be received by the Town Clerk up until the closing of the polls at 8 p.m.

State Election will be held on Tuesday November 7, 2006–Polls are open 7 am until 8 pm

Last day to register to vote for the State Election will be on Wednesday, October 18, 2006. I will hold office hours that day 2 pm to 4 pm and 7 pm to 8 pm for that purpose.

## *Tolland's Bulky Waste Days for 2006*

Bulky waste items will be accepted at the Tolland Transfer Station (Dump) on Colebrook River Road as follows:

- Saturday, November 25, 2006 from 12:00-3:00 pm
- Sunday, November 26, 2006 from 3:00- 5:00 pm

NOTE: During these times Solid Waste (trash) and recyclables will NOT be accepted...only bulky waste. Trash and recyclables must be dropped off at the Transfer Station during normal scheduled hours.

### Fees:

- Large items: (mattresses, stoves, washers, couches, furniture etc.) - \$20 per item.\*
- Medium sized items: (about the size of your recycling container) 10.00 per item \*
- Small items: (smaller than a recycling container) \$1 to \$5 per item\*
- Final prices for Bulky Waste will be determined by Transfer Station attendant.

\*Cash is not accepted at the transfer station. Please make checks out to the Town of Tolland.

## *Fire Department News*



We have a new member to our department. Dave Pickhardt of North Tolland joined us in July. He will be a nice addition to our team. We're always looking for new members. Should you be interested in joining us as a firefighter or first responder please contact me at my office at 258-2859 or at my home at 258-4094.

We have received an outboard motor for our Rescue Boat. Thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Bartels for this donation from all the members. We are still looking for a donation of a 12' trailer for our boat.

I would like to thank member Julie Skibski for all of her help with our recently receiving a matching grant for gear and equipment for our Brush Truck.

The following is a list of permit fees:

• Smoke Detector/CO2 Inspections	\$40.00
• Propane Tank Installation Inspection (new or replacement tank)	\$50.00
• Fuel Tank Inspection (#2, gas, etc.) (new or replacement tank)	\$50.00
• Underground Tank Removal	\$50.00(after 1st hr. add (\$25.00/hr. for inspector)
• Gasoline Storage Tank Inspection (aboveground)	\$50.00
• Diesel Storage Tank Inspection (aboveground)	\$50.00
• Camp Inspection (yearly)	\$45.00
• Oil Burner (new or replacement burner)	\$45.00
• Black Powder	\$35.00
• Portable Fuel Storage Tanks (on vehicles) (yearly sticker required)	\$35.00

Coming in October's Tattler there will be information regarding a fundraiser for the Fire Department. Starting in September, the Fire Department will be offering for sale reflective signs with your personal house number which can be attached to your mailbox post or anywhere near your driveway to help emergency services find you in an emergency.

The meetings/drills for the month of September are the following Tuesday nights: September 5th and September 19th from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

*Chief Robert Littlefield, Sr.*

## *Tolland Board of Assessors*

The following was received by the Tolland Board of Assessors from the Department of Revenue:

### FY2009 Recommendations - Town of Tolland

#### CYCLICAL REINSPECTION

Maintenance of current and accurate property inventory data is a critical element in the development of uniform, fair market values. Our last certification review indicated that the Tolland Board of Assessors should complete their cyclical reinspection program of all descriptive property data over the next three years, so that each parcel is inspected at least once in every nine-year cycle.

As part of this cyclical reinspection program, an on-going data quality analysis would help identify recollection priorities for program planning.

For further information on cyclical reinspection program and data quality analysis please refer to *"The Guidelines for the Development of a Minimum Reassessment Program."*

#### PERSONAL PROPERTY - Second Homes

The certification review indicated that a new analysis of residential second home personal property must be conducted for valuation of these accounts for the next certification. For further information please refer to *"The Guidelines for the Development of a Minimum Reassessment Program"*.

#### LAND SCHEDULES

Assessors should review and analyze market influences of certain characteristics on the value of land, such as lake front and size curves and adjust the land valuation system as need in a uniform and equitable manner.

The Board of Assessors would like to thank everyone who has been so accommodating to our field agents over the summer. As of August 23rd, over one hundred and twenty homes have had a complete inspection. Everyone's understanding and efforts are greatly appreciated.



*Each month the Tattler is printing one Tolland Bylaw to familiarize newcomers with the bylaws and refresh the memories of all residents!*

*Junk Car Bylaw*

Town of Tolland, MA

No person shall deposit, or store on any lot within the town, two or more wrecked, inoperative, or unregistered vehicles or parts thereof for more than one month.

Garaged vehicles are exempt from this provision.

Penalty for Violation of this Bylaw: In addition to any other legal remedies that may be available, Whoever violates any provision of this by-law, the violation of which is subject to specific penalty, may be penalized by non-criminal disposition as provided in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 21D as amended in accordance with the penalty and fine schedule established in the Town of Tolland Bylaw.

*Adopted at Special Town Meeting on March 28, 2005*

*Approved by Attorney General on November 16, 2005*

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*Granville Federated Church*, American Baptist & United Church of Christ  
16 Granby Road, Granville, MA 01034—Phone (413) 357-8583

September sees many of the church's activities starting anew. All are welcome to attend.

Morning Worship is at 10 a.m. each Sunday. On Sept. 3, the choir returns. Sunday, Sept. 10 Church School begins with students first attending the opening of the Sunday Worship Service in the sanctuary and then going to their classes.

- On Sunday, Sept. 17, breakfast will be served from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
- The Ladies Aid will meet for a potluck lunch at noon on Wed., Sept. 20. A meeting will follow lunch.
- Join the women on Sat., Sept. 30 at 9 a.m. as they bake apple pies for the Bake Sale at the Harvest Fair. Please call Carolyn at 569-0384 for details.
- Sunday—10am Morning Worship
- Thursday—7pm-Adult Choir Practice
- First Saturday—6pm-Potluck Supper (starting in October)
- Third Sunday—8:30-9:30am-Breakfast served in Fellowship Hall
- Third Wednesday—Noon-Ladies Aid Potluck Luncheon & Meeting
- Fourth Sunday—11:15am-Adult Study Program led by the Rev.McMahon

*All are welcome*

*Smart Money*—the Dollars for Scholars Financial Aid Tip of the Month brought to you by New England Dollars for Scholars and Nellie Mae

What's the secret to getting scholarships? You have to APPLY!

College-bound students should apply for as many forms of gift aid as possible. If you're truly needy, an academic star, or just plain lucky, your financial aid package may include federal and school-based grants or scholarships. However, the more outside scholarship applications you submit, the better your chances to win those cash prizes.

You have to ASK for money. Scholarships rarely fall out of the sky. While getting scholarship money can be competitive and challenging, scholarships and grants are basically "free money." Unlike loans, you don't pay them back. Be sure that every application you submit is presentable: clean, spell-checked, and readable.

Invest some time. You should have started scouting scholarships in your junior or sophomore year of high school, but it's never too late to begin. Set aside a realistic amount of time for a proper money hunt, including some hours writing essays and completing forms. Investigate what's available, then select scholarship targets strategically. Will there be a thousand applicants or three? If you have a shot, apply. But even if it's a long shot, how can you go wrong for the price of a stamp or hitting the SEND button?

Your best scholarship opportunities are within your community or personal network. Does your parent's or grandparent's employer, professional organization, or labor union offer scholarships or tuition assistance? Consider all your family and community links to volunteer groups, ethnic societies, clubs, service industries, and religious and philanthropic organizations. Does your state have a grant program? Do you have a talent—sports music, or the arts—that offers scholarship opportunities? Get the details and apply.

Check out [www.dollarsforscholarsne.org](http://www.dollarsforscholarsne.org). New England Dollars for Scholars has 180 chapters in the six New England states. Each of these 180 local scholarship foundations provides valuable financial and academic support to local students. And check out scholarship opportunities from the Sallie Mae Fund at [www.salliemaefund.org](http://www.salliemaefund.org). Always be on the lookout for opportunities to apply!

Click for cash. The Internet is an amazing tool for scholarship searches. However, be wary of any scholarship search that charges a fee. Although a few fee-based searches may be legitimate, you should research scholarships at free sites like [www.CollegeAnswer.com](http://www.CollegeAnswer.com), where you can set parameters to narrow down your search. For more free information on student aid, visit the U.S. Department of Education at [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov). But don't get lost in the research phase. Actually APPLYING for specific scholarships is what generates cash.

Track all financial aid information. Keep a file of scholarship and loan information, such as criteria, amounts, contact person(s), and deadlines for applying. In many cases, a scholarship's application deadline can be months before you need to file your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Other times, a university may automatically award a merit- or need-based scholarship through the FAFSA process.

Finally, make yourself a strong candidate for winning scholarships. Keeping up your grades, taking challenging courses, and getting involved in activities will increase your chances of receiving gift aid.

Of course, there are no guarantees, but a strong scholarship push is an investment in you. If additional funds are needed, Nellie Mae, Massachusetts' #1 provider of student loans, is ready with competitive rates and great benefits at [www.nelliemae.com](http://www.nelliemae.com).

## *Letters to the Editor*

As a proud resident of Tolland, I feel that a response to last month's editorial is in order. It seems that a couple of people were upset because our Fire Department wasn't in a parade last month. We have a very small department made up of members who volunteer many hours every year. I think it is great that they spent a holiday with their families instead of trying to entertain a few who don't realize the time and effort that these people put into being a volunteer fireman.

As for the dirty work truck...SO WHAT. It is a dirty truck.

Also, it is very insulting to infer that the residents of Tolland have no pride. Here are some of the reasons that make me proud to be a resident of Tolland:

1. Time and effort put in by those who keep the town functional
2. The 2 man highway department that keep the roads passable in winter.
3. The countless hours the Fire Department volunteers take for training classes and attend meetings and to do equipment maintenance. They are ALWAYS ready to help with town events and emergencies.
4. I am proud to be a part of Tolland's Police Department. We do a darn good job for a three man department.
5. The roadsides look great, especially the sections that are mowed.

*Proud resident, Lester Walker*

As a full time resident of Tolland, I took offense to the unwarranted insult from the letter to the editor last month. They asked, "Tolland, where's your pride?" because the all-volunteer fire department and first responders were unable to appear in one of Granville's parades.

The Help Wanted signs posted at the town yard for months, asking for fire fighters and first responders are impossible to miss and should sound a note of alarm for full-time as well as part-time residents. If it's been difficult to find people who will unselfishly give up their personal time to ensure our safety, it's little wonder it would be even harder to find people who will give up a holiday to appear in another town's parade.

I say, rather than kick to town when it's down, especially over such a petty issue, why not...

1. Step up and volunteer to be a volunteer fire fighter or first responder, or
2. Volunteer to wash town vehicles for extra curricular holiday events. It's time for people to put their muscle where their mouths are.

*Joan Maxson, Paul Sandy, Lakeside Drive, Tolland*

On August 13th of this year, a group of caring people from Driftwood Shores and Lands End worked on a community good will project. They picked up trash and litter along Schoolhouse Road. The participants were: Pat and Maggie Storey, Karen and Dave Spidel, Dennis Burr,



*Bill Foster, Dennis Burr and Dave Fitzgerald*

Pam, Jim and Paul Richards, Dave Fitzzygerald, Bill Foster, Mike, Nick and Alex Caldor and Andy and Judy Sheehan. More people need to take pride in our town. We all enjoy the forest, back roads and Otis Reservoir. It's time to give back. Next year it would be great to hear about other neighbors cleaning up our roadsides.

To all those who throw litter and trash: shame on you.

*Judy Sheehan, V.P. Driftwood Shores*

## *Tolland COA*

### *Re: Prescription Advantage Open Enrollment & Help with Medicare Part D*

The Massachusetts pharmacy assistance program, Prescription Advantage, can help you reduce Medicare Part D costs. There is an open enrollment period from September 15 to November 15, 2006 during which new individuals can sign up for Prescription Advantage coverage.

Prescription Advantage is open to Massachusetts residents who are:

- 65 years or older
- Disabled individuals under 65 years old

Prescription Advantage is a secondary payer to Medicare Part D prescription drug plans and can help reduce your out-of-pocket costs by:

- Providing benefits during coverage gaps such as deductibles or the “donut hole,”
- Lowering your co-payment amounts,
- Providing you an annual out-of-pocket spending limit, and
- Helping pay for Medicare Part D premiums for those with limited incomes.

Prescription Advantage requires no monthly premium. For seniors who do not have Medicare Part D, but have prescription drug coverage through an employer or union, Prescription Advantage also provides secondary benefits. To obtain Prescription Advantage Open Enrollment forms, call the Prescription advantage Customer Service toll-free number at 1-800-AGE INFO (1-800-243-4636) or TTY for the deaf and hard of hearing at 1-877-610-0241.

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### *Re: SHINE Help with Health Insurance Questions*

SHINE Counselor Can Help with Health Insurance Questions. SHINE, Serving the Health Information Needs of Elders, is the Massachusetts program to assist seniors with health insurance and other health benefit programs and issues. Volunteers undergo rigorous training and go to monthly sessions to update their knowledge. For individuals trying to decide on a Medicare Part D plan or who want counseling about joining Prescription Advantage, speaking with a SHINE counselor could be very helpful. Marilyn Riddle of Granville is the SHINE counselor in our area. She will discuss questions over the phone or will make individual appointments. She can be reached by calling 413-357-6103. Appointments with Marilyn can also be made at the Southwick Senior Center by calling 413-569-5498. A SHINE counselor is also available by appointment at the Westfield Senior Center by calling 413-562-6435 or 562-9624

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### *RE: Tolland COA Yoga Class Meets through September 21, 2006*

The Tolland Council on Aging Gentle Yoga Class will meet on Thursdays in September—September 7, 14, and 21--from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. at the Tolland Town Hall. These are a continuation of the summer yoga classes that met in July and August, but they are now at a different time and on a different day of the week.

Seniors from Granville, Tolland, and other towns, and adults of any age, not just seniors, are welcome to attend. New persons are welcome to any class. The COA requests a \$1.00 donation for Tolland seniors and \$2.00 for all others. Donations are confidential and persons will not be turned away if they cannot contribute. Yoga is a practice that stretches and strengthens muscles and improves balance, overall fitness, and well being. The yoga classes are taught by Sally Barber of the Westfield Yoga Center and can accommodate persons of all ability levels including those with disabilities: it is not necessary to get down on the floor on a mat to take these classes. However, please bring a mat, if you plan to use one. The classes are funded through a grant to the Tolland COA from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, other COA funds, and student donations. The yoga classes will be held again next year on Thursdays at the Town Hall beginning at the end of June, 2007. Watch the paper for information at that time. Please call Elethea Goodkin, Regional COA Coordinator, at 413-562-1095 for further information.

## *Veterans, Corner*

It doesn't seem possible that the summer is drawing to a close, but here we are. I want to give you an update on some of the things that are going on here. The good news is that this office was able to bring 12 cases of useful things to our veterans in the Holyoke Soldiers home. This is all because of the generous donations made from the veteran supporters in Agawam, Southwick, Granville and Tolland. I might add that we have a veteran supporter from as far away as Las Vegas. Ms. Jannette Chandler and her veteran supporters send a package about every 3 weeks to support our veterans. Thank you to all..... Now keep it coming, because we have soldiers in the Military hospitals in Washington D. C. and Maryland and elsewhere. Not to mention those who are overseas, that need our undying support. Currently, we are looking for T-shirts (L/XL) for our injured veterans who are in rehab. They have sustained injuries that require them to go thru extensive rehab, and while they struggle to adapt to their current conditions they sweat thru all their clothes. We will take any kind of t-shirts that are new. CONTRACTORS, do you have a company t-shirt you could give to a wounded soldier? Please send them along.

I want to tell everyone in the area, we have an Agawam veteran who was injured in Iraq and he is in the hospital as we speak. We have been in communication with him and he also suggested that we send other wounded soldiers ball caps, Large water bottles, movies, DVD,s, and CD,s. These items will help them get thru their rehab. I am happy to say that our Agawam veteran will be coming home soon. The gifts you make can make the difference for an injured soldier. Please support their cause. We will take 1 t-shirt or more for our veterans. Please bring them to this office at Veterans, Services, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030. If you have any questions please call me at 786-0400- ext 236/237. Thank you all again for your dedicated support for our veterans.

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WWII Veterans, have you ever talked to me about your service? Do you have a service connected disability that has not been up-graded since you got out of the service. Do you live in Agawam, Southwick, Granville or Tolland? If I have never talked to you I would like to meet you and Thank You for your service. Please call me at 786-0400 ext. 236/237. I look forward to hearing from you.

Women Veterans, the Massachusetts Governor,s Advisory Committee on Women Veterans, cordially invites you to attend their annual luncheon. On Saturday, October 14, 2006. The luncheon will be at noon that day at the Hanscom Air Force Base Officer,s Club. Tickets are \$20.00 per person. For more information on this event please contact me at 786-0400 ext, 236/237. Reservation deadline is October 7th.

Thank you for your service; God Bless America - *Edward A. Kellog, Director*

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## The Board of Selectmen

In response to "The Letter to the Editor" in the August issue, the Board of Selectmen had no knowledge of the Highway Department pick up truck being in the Town of Granville on the 4th of July or that it was in the parade. The Town of Tolland did not expect to be invited, nor was an invitation received by the Board of Selectmen or the Fire Department to attend this Town of Granville event.



*Town Hall Hours:*

- Mon. & Tues. - 8:00am to 4:00pm
- Wed. from 8:00am to 12pm

*Assessor Clerk's hours :* Monday 10am-4pm

*Town Clerk hours:* Monday 1 - 4pm



# SEPTEMBER 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>LIBRARY HOURS:</b> Mon. 3:00pm - 8:30pm Thurs. 11:00am - 4:00pm Sat. 10:00am -12:00pm					1	2
<b>Building Inspector</b> will be meeting by appointment only. Appointments can be made by calling 258-4590.						9 - 11:00 am DUMP
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3:00 - 7:00 pm DUMP	LABOR DAY Town Hall Closed	7:00-10:00pm Fire Dept. Mtg. / Drill	6:30pm Ladies card group  5-7:00pm DUMP			9 - 11:00 am DUMP
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
3:00 - 7:00 pm DUMP	5:00pm Selectmen	6:30pm Historical Soc.	6:30pm Ladies card group  5-7:00pm DUMP			9 - 11:00 am DUMP
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
3:00 - 7:00 pm DUMP	5:00pm Selectmen 7:00pm Planning Board	7:00-10:00pm Fire Dept. Mtg. / Drill	6:30pm Ladies card group  5-7:00pm DUMP			9 - 11:00 am DUMP
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
3:00 - 7:00 pm DUMP	5:00pm Selectmen	1:00pm Board of Assessors	6:30pm Ladies card group  5-7:00pm DUMP			9 - 11:00 am DUMP

**THE TOLLAND TATTLER** is a monthly newsletter and a non-profit, volunteer publication by the Board of Selectmen of Tolland, Massachusetts. It is distributed free to residents. The Tolland Tattler solicits news and calendar items from town boards and community groups, and will try to print all the news received.

*Policy regarding copy submitted for the "Letters to the Editor" column:*

The Tolland Tattler is the official publication of the Town of Tolland and is sponsored by the Tolland Board of Selectmen. It receives additional funding from various groups including the Council on Aging. The Board of Selectmen maintains the right to review letters submitted to the 'Letters to the Editor' column for content. Letters that are in bad taste, derogatory or present a potential legal problem will not be printed.

**DEADLINE:** Copy and calendar events must be received by the 20th of each month. Items can be mailed to the Town Hall, dropped off at the Town Hall or by E-Mail to: [jeanwillow@crocker.com](mailto:jeanwillow@crocker.com)

**ADVERTISING RATES AND SIZES:**

Prices :1/4 page - \$5.00 • 1/2 page - \$10.00 • full page \$20.00

Mechanical specifications can be obtained by contacting:

The Tolland Tattler

Jean Jinks, Editor

Tolland Town Hall

241 West Granville Road

Tolland MA 01034

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